

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is submitted for the purpose of eliminating multiple dependent claims in compliance with the U.S. patent practice. In no way this preliminary amendment is to be construed as to narrow or enlarge the scope of the claimed invention.

In the above identified application, claims 1-11 are pending for examination. In this preliminary amendment, claims 3-4, and 6-11 are amended to remove multiple dependency. New claims 12-17 are added to supplement the deficiency as a result of the elimination of the multiple dependency. No new matter has been introduced.

In view of the foregoing, all claims are now in condition for examination, and notice of early examination is respectfully requested. Should the application not be passed for examination, the examiner is requested to contact the applicants' attorney to resolve any problem.

Respectfully submitted,

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